## Message Text

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43 41

**ACTION NEA-16** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03 EB-11 SCI-06 COA-02

DLOS-07 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 SCS-03

SCA-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 DRC-01 /105 W

----- 068686

O 301355Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4208
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL MADRAS IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CNO WASHDC
COMIDEASTFOR
AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 13066

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, IN (US VESSEL - TRANS HURON), PLOS

SUBJ: TRANS HURON TANKER

1. THERE HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY NO PUBLCITY ON THE WRECK OF THE TRANS HURON THUS FAR. A BRIEF PRESS ITEM ON SEPT 28 IN THE DELHI NEWS-PAPERS NOTED THE SHIP WAS AGROUND BUT THERE WAS NOTHING ON ITS LEAKING OIL, BEING AMERICAN FLAG, OR UNDER CHARGER TO THE US NAVY. WE DOUBT THIS PEACE AND QUIET WILL LAST MUCH LONGER.

2. FOR CONTINGENCY PURPOSES, WE WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHAT IS USG RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLLUTION CAUSED BY OIL FROM THE SHIP; WHAT THE SHIP WAS DOING IN THE AREA IN THE FIRST PLACE (WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT ITS DESTINATION WAS); DOES THE USG HAVE ANY CAPABILITY TO ASSIST IN CLEANING UP A MAJOR POLLUTION PROBLEM SHOULD OIL BEGIN TO DRIFT ONTO INDIAN TERRITORY; WHAT CLAIM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE US NAVY HAS ON THE OIL STILL ON BOARD THE SHIP (THE

FOREIGN MINISTRY PASSED A GARBLED MESSAGE TO US TODAY THAT UNDER A 1958 INDIAN LAW, THE INDIAN GOVT HAS A RIGHT TO SALVAGE ON ANY SHIP ABANDONED IN INDIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS--WE ARE TRYING TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS); DOES THE DEPT HAVE ANY SUGGESTED GUIDANCE FOR US IF WE ARE ASKED SOME OR ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS BY THE PRESS IN THE COMING DAYS?

3. THE CAPTAIN (WHOSE NAME WE ALSO DO NOT YET HAVE) AND OFFICERS ARE BEING TAKEN TO BOMBAY BY TUG AND SHOULD ARRIVE IN BOMBAY SOMETIME ON OCTOBER 1. IF THE CAPTAIN GOES TO THE CONGEN TO FILE A NOTE OF PROTEST, WE MAY GET SOME HELP IN UNRAVELLING WHAT HAPPENED, BUT WE WOULD WELCOME WHATEVER THE DEPARTMENT AND THE NAVY CAN TELL US NOW. SCHNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: CGEN, PLOS, IN

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Type: TE

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